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REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Walter BALZAN (Malta)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 18 September 1992, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled "Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development". The Assembly also decided that the debate on the item should be held in plenary meeting, on the understanding that action on it would be taken in the Second Committee.

2. At its 2nd meeting, on 2 October 1992, the Second Committee agreed with the proposal made by the Chairman that an informal working group on the agenda item be established, under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Mr. Razali Ismail (Malaysia).

3. The Committee considered the item at its 51st meeting, on 16 December 1992. An account of the Committee's discussions is contained in the relevant summary record (A/C.2/47/SR.51).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documentation:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (A/47/598 and Add.1);

(b) Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (A/CONF.151/26, vols I, II and Corr.1, and III);

(c) Letter dated 29 January 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/80-S/23502);

(d) Letter dated 30 January 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/82-S/23512);

(e) Letter dated 28 February 1992 from the representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/117);

(f) Letter dated 6 March 1992 from the Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/118);

(g) Letter dated 8 May 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/203);

(h) Letter dated 22 May 1992 from the representatives of Indonesia and Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/225-S/23998);

(i) Letter dated 2 July 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/312-S/24238);

(j) Letter dated 8 July 1992 from the Permanent Representatives of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/317);

(k) Letter dated 21 July 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/344);

(l) Letter dated 28 July 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Singapore to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/351-S/24357);

(m) Letter dated 11 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/375-S/24429);

(n) Letter dated 17 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the Final Communiqué of the Twenty-third South Pacific Forum, held at Honiara on 8 and 9 July 1992 (A/47/391);

(o) Letter dated 2 October 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member States of the Group of 77, adopted on 1 October 1992 at their sixteenth annual meeting, held in New York (A/47/499);

(p) Letter dated 25 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/564);

(q) Letter dated 19 November 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the resolutions adopted by the 87th Inter-Parliamentary Conference, held at Yaoundé from 3 to 11 April 1992 (A/47/706);

(r) Letter dated 8 December 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/47/10);

(s) Letter dated 10 December 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/47/11).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.46

5. At the 51st meeting, on 16 December, the representative of Malaysia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/47/L.46) entitled "Establishment of an intergovernmental negotiating committee for the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa".

6. The Committee had before it a statement on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.46, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.2/47/L.90).

7. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Algeria, Benin, Mauritania, Tunisia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the European Community and its member States) (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

8. At its 51st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.46 without a vote (see para. 35, draft resolution I).

9. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Benin and Sweden (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.47

10. At the 51st meeting, on 16 December, the representative of Malaysia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/47/L.47) entitled "Convening of a global conference on the sustainable development of small island developing States", and orally revised it as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 7, at the end of the paragraph "as well as representatives of relevant regional and subregional organizations" were added;

(b) In operative paragraph 8, the words "paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 46/168" were replaced with the words "paragraph 7 above";

(c) A new operative paragraph 9 was added to read:

"Welcomes the candidature of Ambassador Penny Wensley (Australia) for the chairmanship of the Preparatory Committee"

and subsequent paragraphs were renumbered;

(d) In operative paragraph 9, the word "Also" was deleted at the beginning of the sentence;

(e) A new operative paragraph was added after old paragraph 13 to read:

"Further requests the Secretary-General to prepare draft rules of procedure for the consideration of the Preparatory Committee at its organizational session, and in this context to include proposals for the participation of representatives of associate members of regional economic commissions, outside the negotiating process, and in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to allow them to contribute to the Conference and its preparatory process".

11. The Committee had before it a statement on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.47, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.2/47/L.90).

12. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Antigua and Barbuda (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

13. At its 51st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.47, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 35, draft resolution II).

14. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Barbados and the United States of America (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

C. Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.51

15. At the 51st meeting, on 16 December, the representative of Malaysia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/47/L.51) entitled "Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development".

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.51 without a vote (see para. 35, draft resolution III).

17. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

D. Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.61

18. At the 51st meeting, on 16 December, the representative of Malaysia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/47/L.61) entitled "Institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development", and orally revised it as follows:

(a) On page 1, footnote 2 was revised to read "A/47/598 and Add.1";

(b) In operative paragraph 9, the words "in Geneva and/or New York" were added at the end of the sentence;

(c) In operative paragraph 32, the first sentence was replaced with:

"Takes note of the decision of the Secretary-General to establish at the Under-Secretary-General level a new Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development and in this context calls upon the Secretary-General to establish a clearly identifiable, highly qualified and competent secretariat support structure to provide support for the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development and the High-Level Advisory Board, taking into account gender balance at all levels, the paramount importance of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, and the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible in accordance with Articles 8 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations and the following criteria";

(d) Operative subparagraph 32 (c) was replaced with the following:

"The secretariat, which will be located in New York, should ensure easy access of all countries to its services; effective interaction with secretariats of other international organizations, financial institutions and relevant conventions whose secretariats have been established definitely or on an interim basis and should have a relevant office at Geneva to establish close links with activities related to follow-up of legal instruments, signed at or mandated by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and to liaise with agencies in the fields of environment and development. The secretariat should also have a liaison office at Nairobi, on the basis of arrangements of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development."

19. The Committee had before it a statement on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.61, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.2/47/L.90).

20. The representative of Venezuela made a correction to the Spanish text.

21. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Austria, Benin, Colombia, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

22. At its 51st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.61, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 35, draft resolution IV).

23. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Austria, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Japan, Pakistan (on behalf of the Group of 77), the Russian Federation, Sweden (on behalf of the Nordic countries), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the European Community and its member States), the United States of America and Vanuatu (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

E. Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.62

24. At the 51st meeting, on 16 December 1992, the representative of Malaysia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/47/L.62) entitled "Conference on straddling and highly migratory fish stocks", and orally revised it as follows: in operative paragraph 4, "its decision 46/469" was revised to read "its decisions 46/469 and 46/470".

25. The Committee had before it a statement on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.62, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.2/47/L.85).

26. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the European Community and its member States) and the United States of America (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

27. At its 51st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.62, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 35, draft resolution V).

28. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Turkey (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

F. Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.63

29. At the 51st meeting, on 16 December 1992, the representative of Malaysia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/47/L.63) entitled "Observance of World Day for Water".

30. The representative of Morocco amended the text as follows: in operative paragraph 1, in the first line, the words "to be observed starting in 1993" were inserted after the words "World Day for Water".

31. At its 51st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.63, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 35, draft resolution VI).

G. Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.64

32. At the 51st meeting, on 16 December 1992, the representative of Malaysia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/47/64) entitled "Capacity-building for Agenda 21".

33. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.64 without a vote (see para. 35, draft resolution VII).

34. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Tunisia and Morocco (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

35. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Establishment of an intergovernmental negotiating committee for the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/172 A of 19 December 1989, 44/228 of 22 December 1989 and other relevant Assembly resolutions, as well as decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in particular the recommendation by which the Conference invited the General Assembly to establish at its forty-seventh session, under its auspices, an intergovernmental negotiating committee for the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa, with a view to finalizing such a convention by June 1994, 1/

1. Welcomes with satisfaction the results and the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, particularly chapter 12 of Agenda 21, "Managing fragile ecosystems: combating desertification and drought";

2. Decides to establish under its auspices an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa, taking into account proposals that may be submitted by States participating in the negotiating process, with a view to finalizing such a convention by June 1994, and welcomes the candidature of Ambassador Bo Kjellen (Sweden) for the chairmanship of the Committee;

3. Also decides that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee shall be open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies, with the participation of observers in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly;

4. Further decides that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, in addition to an organizational session, shall hold five substantive sessions, each lasting for two weeks, which will be held in Geneva, Nairobi, New York and, in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985, Paris; the dates of these sessions will be determined by the

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1/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), vol. II, para. 12.40.

Committee at its organizational session, subject to review of the timetable at the end of each negotiating session and taking into account the schedule of other related meetings;

5. Decides that at the first session of the Committee at Nairobi the first week shall be devoted to the sharing of technical information and assessments, involving experts, on drought and desertification;

6. Decides that provisions shall be made for an organizational session of up to one week to be held in New York not later than February 1993 in order to organize the work of the Committee and to elect the Bureau, which shall consist of a chairman, three vice-chairmen and a rapporteur, each of the five regional groups being represented by one member;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to establish as soon as possible an ad hoc secretariat of appropriate size and quality at Geneva, drawing, inter alia, on staff resources of the United Nations system in order to ensure that the ad hoc secretariat embodies requisite technical expertise to assist the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee in the conduct of its mandate;

8. Invites the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Health Organization, the World Meteorological Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant international organizations dealing with desertification, drought and development to make appropriate contributions to the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee in the conduct of its mandate;

9. Decides that the Secretary-General shall appoint as head of the ad hoc secretariat a senior official of an appropriate level who shall act under the guidance of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee;

10. Requests the Secretary-General, through the head of the ad hoc secretariat, to prepare draft rules of procedure to be considered by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at its organizational session;

11. Requests the head of the ad hoc secretariat to make available to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at the first substantive session the most relevant and recent information available, in conformity with its mandates as stated in paragraph 2 of the present resolution;

12. Decides to establish a multidisciplinary panel of experts to assist the ad hoc secretariat and, under its authority, to provide the necessary expertise in the scientific, technical, legal and other related fields, making full use of the resources and expertise within and available to Governments and/or organizations of the United Nations system dealing with drought and desertification;

13. Also decides that the negotiation process shall be funded through existing United Nations budgetary resources, without negatively affecting its programmed activities, and through voluntary contributions to a trust fund established specifically for that purpose for the duration of the negotiations and administered by the head of the ad hoc secretariat under the authority of the Secretary-General;

14. Urges Governments, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to contribute generously to the trust fund;

15. Decides to establish a special voluntary fund, to be administered by the head of the ad hoc secretariat under the authority of the Secretary-General, to assist developing countries affected by desertification and drought, in particular the least developed countries, to participate fully and effectively in the negotiation process, and invites Governments, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to contribute generously to the fund;

16. Invites relevant or interested organizations, organs, programmes and concerned agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental, subregional and regional organizations to participate actively in the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee;

17. Urges States to organize, in close collaboration with the regional commissions and national, subregional and regional organizations, activities to support the process of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, which would involve the scientific and industrial communities, trade unions, the relevant non-governmental organizations and other interested groups;

18. Invites the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to assist the countries covered under its mandate in their preparations and participation in the negotiating process and to mobilize resources for this purpose;

19. Invites all relevant non-governmental organizations and especially encourages non-governmental organizations from developing countries to contribute constructively to the success of the negotiating process in accordance with rules of procedure of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee and taking into account procedures used in the process of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

20. Requests the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to submit progress reports to the Commission on Sustainable Development and other appropriate bodies;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and relevant scientific institutions;

22. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session a sub-item entitled "Establishment of an intergovernmental negotiating committee for the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa" under an agenda item entitled "Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development".

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Convening of a global conference on the sustainable development of small island developing States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989, in which it decided to convene the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to, inter alia, elaborate strategies and measures aimed at promoting sustainable and environmentally sound development in all countries,

Recalling also its resolution 45/202 of 21 December 1990, in which it called upon island developing countries to continue to adopt suitable development policies designed to overcome their specific vulnerabilities and to adopt measures aimed at protecting and rehabilitating their fragile ecosystems, and at the same time appealed to the international community to extend cooperation in this regard,

Recalling further Agenda 21, 2/ which was adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 3 to 14 June 1992, in particular chapter 17, section G, relating to the sustainable development of small island developing States,

Taking into account relevant work in this area carried out by other organs, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system,

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2/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), vols. I, II and Corr.1, and III.

Recognizing that small island developing States and islands supporting small communities are a special case for both environment and development, that they are ecologically fragile and vulnerable, that their small size, limited resources, geographic dispersion and isolation from markets place them at a disadvantage economically and limit economies of scale, and that for small island developing States the ocean and coastal environment is of strategic importance and constitutes a valuable development resource,

Also recognizing that the geographic isolation of small island developing States has resulted in their habitation by comparatively large numbers of unique species of flora and fauna, giving them a very large share of global biodiversity,

Noting that small island developing States have rich and diverse cultures with special adaptations to island environments and knowledge of sound management of island resources,

Noting also that small island developing States have all the environmental problems and challenges of the coastal zone concentrated in a limited land area,

Noting further that small island developing States are considered extremely vulnerable to the impact of potential climate change and sea-level rise, with certain small low-lying island developing States facing the increasing threat of the loss of their entire national territories,

Gravely concerned that most tropical islands are currently experiencing the more immediate impacts of an increasing frequency of cyclones, storms and hurricanes associated with climate change, which are causing major set-backs to their socio-economic development,

Stressing that because the development options of small island developing States are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that small island developing States will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the cooperation and assistance of the international community,

Affirming the relevance of the environmental issues identified in paragraph 12 of its resolution 44/228 to the sustainable development of small island developing States,

Reaffirming the recommendation in Agenda 21 that small island developing States, with the support, as appropriate, of international organizations, whether subregional, regional or global, should develop and strengthen inter-island, regional and interregional cooperation and information exchange, including periodic regional and global meetings on the sustainable development of small island developing States, 3/

3/ Ibid., vol. II and Corr.1, chap. 17, para. 17.130.

1. Decides to convene in April 1994 the first Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, which shall be of two weeks' duration and shall have the highest possible level of participation;

2. Accepts with deep appreciation the generous offer of the Government of Barbados to host the Conference;

3. Affirms that the Conference should elaborate strategies and measures to enhance the sustainable development of small island developing States in the context of increased national and international efforts to promote sustainable and environmentally sound development worldwide;

4. Decides that the Conference should have the following objectives:

(a) To adopt plans and programmes to support the sustainable development of small island developing States and the utilization of their marine and coastal resources, which includes meeting essential human needs, maintaining biodiversity and improving the quality of life for island people;

(b) To adopt measures that will enable small island developing States to cope effectively, creatively and sustainably with environmental changes and to mitigate impacts and reduce the threats posed to marine and coastal resources;

5. Also decides that the Conference, in pursuit of those objectives, shall examine strategies for national and international action with a view to arriving at specific agreements and commitments by Governments and by intergovernmental organizations for defined activities to promote sustained and environmentally sound development of small island developing States; the Conference shall, inter alia:

(a) Review current trends in the socio-economic development of small island developing States and the prospects, constraints and further options for their sustainable development, taking into consideration the relevant programmes and recommendations in chapter 17, section G, of Agenda 21;

(b) Examine the nature and magnitude of the specific vulnerabilities of small island developing States with a view to defining and/or formulating specific indicators of vulnerability in a way that has operational applicability;

(c) Define a number of specific actions and policies relating to environmental and development planning to be undertaken by the small island developing States, with the assistance of the international community, to facilitate the sustainable development of the small island developing States;

(d) Identify the elements that small island developing States need to include in their medium- and long-term sustainable development plans, including their response strategies, taking into account the importance of integrating environmental, social and economic factors in maintaining cultural and biological diversity and conserving endangered species and critical habitats on both land and sea;

(e) Recommend measures for enhancing the endogenous capacity of small island developing States, in particular the development of human resources and the promotion of access to environmentally sound technology for sustainable development within small island developing States;

(f) Review whether institutional arrangements at the international level enable small island developing States to give effect to the relevant provisions of Agenda 21, and make recommendations as needed in this regard;

6. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to prepare a report for the substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, containing a review of existing global and regional programmes of action for their applicability to and their combined effect on the sustainable development of small island developing States, with specific recommendations on any changes to those programmes of action which may be needed to establish greater consistency with the principles of Agenda 21 with respect to the sustainable development of small island developing States;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to invite to the Conference those listed in paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 46/168 of 19 December 1991;

8. Decides to establish a Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, which shall be open to all the participants listed in paragraph 7 above, in accordance with the established practice of the Assembly;

9. Welcomes the candidature of Ambassador Penny Wensley (Australia) for the chairmanship of the Preparatory Committee;

10. Decides that the Preparatory Committee shall hold a two-day organizational session at United Nations Headquarters not later than April 1993 for the following purposes:

(a) The election of a chairman and other members of its Bureau, comprising four vice-chairmen, including a rapporteur, giving due regard to equitable geographical representation;

(b) The organization of its work;

11. Also decides that the Preparatory Committee shall hold a substantive session of two weeks' duration in August 1993 at United Nations Headquarters, at which time it shall:

(a) Draft the provisional agenda for the Conference, in accordance with the provisions of the present resolution, on the basis of recommendations to be submitted by the Secretary-General;

(b) Receive and consider the substantive contributions referred to in paragraphs 14, 16 and 17 of the present resolution;

(c) Prepare draft decisions to be submitted to the Conference for consideration and adoption;

12. Further decides that the host country of the Conference shall be an ex officio member of the Bureau;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to provide, within the context of the administrative arrangements to be put in place to coordinate the implementation of Agenda 21 and the servicing of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and in close cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, a focal point with a senior official at an appropriate level and with the specialized expertise necessary to service fully the preparations for and holding of the Conference and such follow-up action as may result therefrom;

14. Also requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report to be submitted to the Preparatory Committee at its organizational session, containing recommendations on an adequate preparatory process, taking into account the provisions of the present resolution and the views expressed by Governments during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

15. Further requests the Secretary-General to prepare draft rules of procedure for the consideration of the Preparatory Committee at its organizational session, and in this context to include proposals for the participation of representatives of associate members of regional economic commissions, outside the negotiating process, and in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to allow them to contribute to the Conference and its preparatory process;

16. Stresses the importance of holding regional technical meetings on the sustainable development of small island developing States as a means of preparing substantive contributions to the Conference, and invites relevant regional and subregional bodies, in close cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other agencies, organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, to organize such meetings as soon as practicable, preferably in the first half of 1993;

17. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure the coordination of contributions from the United Nations system through the Administrative Committee on Coordination;

18. Invites relevant non-governmental organizations from developed and developing countries, in particular those from small island developing States, including those related to major groups, to contribute, within the areas of their competence and expertise, to the Conference on the basis of the procedures for their accreditation used for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as recommended in paragraph 38.44 of Agenda 21;

19. Decides that the funds necessary for the preparatory process and the Conference itself should, subject to the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987, be made available within the programme budget without adversely affecting other ongoing activities and without prejudice to the provision of extrabudgetary resources;

20. Also decides to establish a voluntary fund for the purpose of assisting small island developing States and the least developed countries to participate fully and effectively in the Conference and its preparatory process, and invites Governments to contribute to the fund;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of the relevant specialized agencies and other relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system;

22. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session a sub-item entitled "Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" under an agenda item entitled "Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development".

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/196 of 20 December 1988, 44/172 A and B of 19 December 1989, 44/228 of 22 December 1989, 45/211 of 21 December 1990 and 46/168 of 19 December 1991,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 4/ which was held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 3 to 14 June 1992,

Expressing its satisfaction that the Conference and its Preparatory Committee provided for active participation of all States Members of the United Nations and its specialized agencies at the highest level, and of observers and various intergovernmental organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, representing all the regions of the world,

Reaffirming the need for a balanced and integrated approach to environment and development issues,

Reaffirming also a new global partnership for sustainable development,

Expressing its profound gratitude to the Government and the people of Brazil for the hospitality extended to the participants of the Conference and for facilities, staff and services placed at their disposal,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development; 4/

2. Endorses the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21 and the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests, as adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development on 14 June 1992; 5/

4/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), vols. I, II and Corr.1, and III.

5/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), vols. I, II and Corr.1, and III.

3. Notes with satisfaction that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 6/ and the Convention on Biological Diversity were opened for signature and were signed by a large number of States at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and stresses the need for these Conventions to be brought into force as soon as possible;

4. Urges Governments, organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to take the necessary action to give effective follow-up to the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21 and the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests;

5. Calls upon all concerned to implement all commitments, agreements and recommendations reached at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, especially by ensuring provision of the means of implementation under section IV of Agenda 21, stressing in particular the importance of financial resources and mechanisms, transfer of environmentally sound technology, cooperation and capacity-building, and international institutional arrangements, in order to achieve sustainable development in all countries;

6. Takes note with appreciation of the initial financial commitments made by some developed countries at its forty-seventh session and urges those countries which have not done so to announce their commitments in accordance with paragraph 33.19 of Agenda 21;

7. Decides to include in the agenda of its forthcoming sessions a standing item entitled "Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development";

8. Also decides to convene not later than 1997 a special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of Agenda 21 and, in this context, requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report containing recommendations for consideration by the Assembly on the format, scope and organizational aspects of such a special session.

6/ A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development of Agenda 21, 7/ in particular chapter 38, entitled "International institutional arrangements", which contains a set of important recommendations on institutional arrangements to follow up the Conference,

Stressing the overall objective of the integration of environment and development issues at the national, subregional, regional and international levels, including the United Nations system institutional arrangements, and the specific objectives recommended by the Conference in paragraph 38.8 of Agenda 21,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, 8/ prepared with the assistance of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, on institutional arrangements to follow up the Conference, as well as the recommendations and proposals contained therein,

1. Endorses the recommendations on international institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development as contained in chapter 38 of Agenda 21, particularly those on the establishment of a high-level Commission on Sustainable Development;

Commission on Sustainable Development

2. Requests the Economic and Social Council, at its organizational session for 1993, to set up a high-level Commission on Sustainable Development as a functional commission of the Council in accordance with Article 68 of the Charter of the United Nations in order to ensure the effective follow-up of the Conference, as well as to enhance international cooperation and rationalize the intergovernmental decision-making capacity for the integration of environment and development issues and to examine the progress of the implementation of Agenda 21 at the national, regional and international levels, fully guided by the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment

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7/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), vols. I, II and Corr.1, and III.

8/ A/47/598 and Add.1.

and Development 9/ and all other aspects of the Conference, in order to achieve sustainable development in all countries;

3. Recommends that the Commission shall have the following functions, as agreed in paragraphs 38.13, 33.13 and 33.21 of Agenda 21:

(a) To monitor progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 and activities related to the integration of environmental and developmental goals throughout the United Nations system through analysis and evaluation of reports from all relevant organs, organizations, programmes and institutions of the United Nations system dealing with various issues of environment and development, including those related to finance;

(b) To consider information provided by Governments, including, for example, in the form of periodic communications or national reports regarding the activities they undertake to implement Agenda 21, the problems they face, such as problems related to financial resources and technology transfer, and other environment and development issues they find relevant;

(c) To review the progress in the implementation of the commitments contained in Agenda 21, including those related to the provision of financial resources and transfer of technology;

(d) To review and monitor regularly progress towards the United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of the gross national product of developed countries for official development assistance. This review process should systematically combine the monitoring of the implementation of Agenda 21 with the review of financial resources available;

(e) To review on a regular basis the adequacy of funding and mechanisms, including efforts to reach agreed objectives of chapter 33 of Agenda 21, including targets where applicable;

(f) To receive and analyse relevant input from competent non-governmental organizations, including the scientific and the private sector, in the context of the overall implementation of Agenda 21;

(g) To enhance the dialogue, within the framework of the United Nations, with non-governmental organizations and the independent sector, as well as other entities outside the United Nations system;

(h) To consider, where appropriate, information regarding the progress made in the implementation of environmental conventions, which could be made available by the relevant Conferences of Parties;

9/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), vol. I, chap. I.

(i) To provide appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on the basis of an integrated consideration of the reports and issues related to the implementation of Agenda 21;

(j) To consider, at an appropriate time, the results of the review to be conducted expeditiously by the Secretary-General of all recommendations of the Conference for capacity-building programmes, information networks, task forces and other mechanisms to support the integration of environment and development at regional and subregional levels;

4. Also recommends that the Commission shall:

(a) Promote the incorporation of the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in the implementation of Agenda 21;

(b) Promote the incorporation of the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests 10/ in the implementation of Agenda 21, in particular in the context of the review of the implementation of chapter 11 thereof;

(c) Keep under review the implementation of Agenda 21, recognizing that it is a dynamic programme that could evolve over time, taking into account the agreement to review Agenda 21 in 1997, and make recommendations, as appropriate, on the need for new cooperative arrangements related to sustainable development to the Economic and Social Council and, through it, to the General Assembly;

5. Decides that the Commission, in the fulfilment of its functions, will also:

(a) Monitor progress in promoting, facilitating and financing, as appropriate, the access to and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as the special needs of developing countries for the implementation of Agenda 21;

(b) Consider issues related to the provision of financial resources from all available funding sources and mechanisms, as contained in paragraphs 33.13 to 33.16 of Agenda 21;

6. Recommends that the Commission consist of representatives of 53 States elected by the Economic and Social Council from among the Member

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10/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), vol. III.

States of the United Nations and its specialized agencies for three-year terms, with due regard to equitable geographical distribution. The regional allocation of seats could be the same as in the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, as decided in Economic and Social Council decision 1992/222 of 29 May 1992. Representation should be at a high level, including ministerial participation. Other Member States of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, as well as other observers of the United Nations, may participate in the Commission in the capacity of observer, in accordance with established practice;

7. Also recommends that the Commission should:

(a) Provide for representatives of various parts of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, including international financial institutions, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, regional development banks, subregional financial institutions, relevant regional and subregional economic and technical cooperation organizations and regional economic integration organizations, to assist and advise the Commission in the performance of its functions within their respective areas of expertise and mandates, and participate actively in its deliberations; and provide for the European Economic Community, within its areas of competence, to participate - as will be appropriately defined in the rules of procedure of the Commission on Sustainable Development - fully, without the right to vote;

(b) Provide for non-governmental organizations, including those related to major groups as well as industry and the scientific and business communities, to participate effectively in its work and contribute within their areas of competence to its deliberations;

8. Requests the Secretary-General, in the light of paragraph 7 above, to submit, for the consideration of the the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1993, his proposals on the rules of procedure of the Commission, including those related to participation of relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as recommended by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, taking into account the following:

(a) The procedures, while ensuring the intergovernmental nature of the Commission, should allow its members to benefit from the expertise and competence of relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

(b) The procedures should permit relevant intergovernmental organizations inside and outside the United Nations system, including multilateral financial institutions, to appoint special representatives to the Commission;

(c) The rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council and the rules of procedure of its functional commissions;

(d) The rules of procedure of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(e) Decisions 1/1 11/ and 2/1 12/ of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(f) Paragraphs 38.11 and 38.44 of Agenda 21;

9. Recommends that the Commission on Sustainable Development shall meet once a year for a period of two to three weeks. The first substantive session of the Commission will be held in New York in 1993, without prejudice to the venue of its future sessions;

10. Requests the Committee on Conferences to consider the need for readjusting the calendar of meetings in order to take account of the interrelationship between the work of the Commission and the work of other relevant United Nations intergovernmental subsidiary organs, in order to ensure timely reporting to the Economic and Social Council;

11. Recommends that in 1993, as a transitional measure, the Commission hold a short organizational session in New York. At that session, the Commission will elect the Bureau of the Commission, consisting of a chairperson, three vice-chairpersons and a rapporteur, coming from each of the regional groups, decide on the agenda of its first substantive session and consider all other organizational issues as may be necessary. The agenda of the organizational session of the Commission shall be decided on by the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session of 1993;

12. Also recommends that the Commission, at its first substantive session, adopt a multi-year thematic programme of its work that will provide a framework to assess progress achieved in the implementation of Agenda 21 and ensure an integrated approach to all of its environment and development components as well as linkages between sectoral and cross-sectoral issues. This programme could be of clusters that would integrate in an effective manner related sectoral and cross-sectoral components of Agenda 21 in such a way as to allow the Commission to review the progress of the implementation of the entire Agenda 21 by 1997. This programme of work could be adjusted, as the need may arise, at the future sessions of the Commission;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to submit his proposals for such a programme of work during the organizational session of the Commission;

11/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 46 (A/45/46), annex I.

12/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/46/48), vol. I, annex I.

14. Recommends that in order to carry out its functions and implement its work programme effectively the Commission consider organizing its work on the following lines:

(a) Financial resources, mechanisms, transfer of technology, capacity-building and other cross-sectoral issues;

(b) Review of implementation of Agenda 21 at the international level, as well as at the regional and national levels, including the means of implementation, in accordance with paragraph 12 above and the functions of the Commission, taking into account, where appropriate, information regarding the progress in the implementation of relevant environmental conventions;

(c) A high-level meeting, with ministerial participation, to have an integrated overview of the implementation of Agenda 21, to consider emerging policy issues and to provide necessary political impetus to the implementation of decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and commitments contained therein.

Review and consideration of implementation of Agenda 21 should be in an integrated manner;

15. Requests the Secretary-General to provide for each session of the Commission, in accordance with the programme of work mentioned in paragraph 12 above and in accordance with its organizational modalities, analytical reports containing information on relevant activities to implement Agenda 21, progress achieved and emerging issues to be addressed;

16. Also requests the Secretary-General to prepare, for the first substantive session of the Commission, reports containing information and proposals, as appropriate, on the following issues:

(a) Initial financial commitments, financial flows and arrangements to give effect to the decisions of the Conference from all available funding sources and mechanisms;

(b) Progress achieved in facilitating and promoting transfer of environmentally sound technologies, cooperation and capacity-building;

(c) Progress in the incorporation of recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in the activities of international organizations and measures undertaken by the Administrative Committee on Coordination to ensure that sustainable development principles are incorporated into programmes and processes within the United Nations system;

(d) Ways in which, upon request, the United Nations system and bilateral donors are assisting countries, particularly developing countries, in the preparation of national reports and national Agenda 21 action plans;

(e) Urgent and major emerging issues that may be addressed in the course of the high-level meeting;

17. Decides that organizational modalities for the Commission should be reviewed in the context of the overall review and appraisal of Agenda 21 during the special session of the General Assembly and adjusted, as may be required, to improve its effectiveness;

Relationship with other United Nations intergovernmental bodies

18. Recommends that the Commission, in discharging its functions, submit its consolidated recommendations to the Economic and Social Council and, through it, to the General Assembly, to be considered by the Council and the Assembly in accordance with their respective responsibilities as defined in the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant provisions of paragraphs 38.9 and 38.10 of Agenda 21;

19. Also recommends that the Commission actively interact with other intergovernmental United Nations bodies dealing with matters related to environment and development;

20. Emphasizes that the ongoing restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields should take into account the organizational modalities for the Commission on Sustainable Development, with a view to optimizing the work of the Commission and other intergovernmental United Nations bodies dealing with matters related to environment and development;

Coordination within the United Nations system

21. Requests all United Nations specialized agencies and related organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen and adjust their activities, programmes and medium-term plans, as appropriate, in line with Agenda 21, in particular regarding projects for promoting sustainable development, in accordance with paragraph 38.28 of Agenda 21, and make their reports on steps they have taken to give effect to this recommendation available to the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council in 1993 or, at the latest, in 1994, in accordance with Article 64 of the Charter of the United Nations;

22. Invites all relevant governing bodies to ensure that the tasks assigned to them are carried out effectively, including the elaboration and publication on a regular basis of reports on the activities of the organs, programmes and organizations for which they are responsible, and that continuous reviews are undertaken of their policies, programmes, budgets and activities;

23. Invites the World Bank and other international, regional and subregional financial and development institutions, including the Global Environment Facility, to submit regularly to the Commission on Sustainable Development reports containing information on their experience, activities and plans to implement Agenda 21;

24. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Sustainable Development, at its substantive session of 1993, recommendations and proposals for improving coordination of programmes related to development data that exist within the United Nations system, taking into account provisions of paragraph 40.13 of Agenda 21, inter alia, regarding "Development Watch";

United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office

25. Requests the Governing Councils of the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the Trade and Development Board to examine the relevant provisions of chapter 38 of Agenda 21 at their next sessions and submit reports on their specific plans to implement Agenda 21 to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council;

26. Takes note of the work of the United Nations Centre on Urgent Environmental Assistance, established by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on an experimental basis, and invites the Governing Council to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the experience gained within the Centre;

Regional commissions

27. Requests United Nations regional commissions to examine the relevant provisions of chapter 38 of Agenda 21 at their next sessions and submit reports on their specific plans to implement Agenda 21;

28. Requests the Economic and Social Council to decide on the arrangements required so that the reports of regional commissions with the conclusions related to such a review be made available to the Commission on Sustainable Development in 1993, or at the latest in 1994;

High-level Advisory Board

29. Endorses the view of the Secretary-General that the High-level Advisory Board should consist of eminent persons broadly representative of all regions of the world, with recognized expertise on the broad spectrum of issues to be dealt with by the Commission on Sustainable Development, drawn from relevant scientific disciplines, industry, finance and other major non-governmental constituencies, as well as various disciplines related to environment and development, and that due account should also be given to gender balance; 13/

30. Decides that the main task of this Board is to give broad consideration to issues related to implementation of Agenda 21, taking into account the thematic multi-year programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and provide expert advice in that regard to the Secretary-General and, through him to the Commission, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

31. Takes notes of the views of the Secretary-General regarding the functions of the Board and of the Committee for Development Planning, and requests the Secretary-General to submit appropriate proposals to the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1993, including the possibility of organizing expert rosters;

Secretariat support arrangements

32. Takes note of the decision of the Secretary-General to establish at the Under-Secretary-General level a new Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development and in this context calls upon the Secretary-General to establish a clearly identifiable, highly qualified and competent secretariat support structure to provide support for the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development and the High-Level Advisory Board, taking into account gender balance at all levels, the paramount importance of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, and the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible in accordance with Articles 8 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations and the following criteria:

(a) It should draw on the expertise gained and the working methods and organizational structures developed during the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(b) It should work closely with United Nations and other expert bodies in the field of sustainable development and should cooperate closely and cooperatively with the economic and social entities of the Secretariat and the secretariats of relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the secretariats of international financial

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13/ A/47/598, para. 59.

institutions, and it should provide for effective liaison with relevant non-governmental organizations, including those related to major groups, in particular non-governmental organizations from developing countries;

(c) The secretariat, which will be located in New York, should ensure easy access to all countries to its services; effective interaction with secretariats of other international organizations, financial institutions and relevant conventions whose secretariats have been established definitely or on an interim basis and should have a relevant office at Geneva to establish close links with activities related to follow-up of legal instruments, signed at or mandated by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and to liaise with agencies in the fields of environment and development. The secretariat should also have a liaison office at Nairobi, on the basis of arrangements of the United Nations Confernece on Environment and Development;

(d) It should be headed by a high-level official designated by the Secretary-General to work closely and directly with him and with assured access to him, as well as with the heads of relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including the multilateral financial and trade organizations, dealing with the implementation of Agenda 21;

(e) It should be funded from the United Nations regular budget and depend to the maximum extent possible upon existing budgetary resources;

(f) It should be supplemented or reinforced, as appropriate, by secondments from other relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, especially the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, taking into account the need to ensure that the work programmes of those organizations are not negatively affected, and national Governments, as well as by appropriate specialists on limited-term contracts from outside the United Nations in such areas as may be required;

(g) It should take into account relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council regarding women in the United Nations Secretariat;

(h) Sustainable development should be integrated and coordinated with other economic, social and environmental activities of the Secretariat. Organizational decisions should be consistent with consensus resolutions in the context of the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields;

33. Requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary interim secretariat arrangements to ensure adequate preparations and support for the first session of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the work of the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development;

34. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Conference on straddling and highly migratory fish stocks

The General Assembly,

Recalling Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 14/ in particular chapter 17, programme area C, 15/ relating to the sustainable use and conservation of marine living resources of the high seas,

Recalling also the Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development, adopted by the World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development, 16/

Taking note of the Declaration of Cancun, 17/ adopted at the International Conference on Responsible Fishing held from 6 to 8 May 1992,

Inviting all members of the international community, particularly those with fishing interests, to strengthen their cooperation in the conservation and management of living marine resources, in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 18/

Taking note of relevant recent discussions on international fisheries,

1. Decides to convene in 1993, in accordance with the mandate agreed upon at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, an intergovernmental conference under United Nations auspices on straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, which should complete its work in advance of the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly;

14/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janiero, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), vols. I, II and Corr.1, and III.

15/ Ibid., vol. II.

16/ See Report of the FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development, Rome, 27 June-6 July 1984 (Rome, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 1984).

17/ A/CONF.151/15, annex.

18/ Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), vol. XVII.

2. Also decides that the conference, in accordance with the mandate agreed upon at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, shall take into account relevant activities at the subregional, regional and global levels, with a view to promoting effective implementation of the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks. The conference, drawing, inter alia, on scientific and technical studies by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, should:

(a) Identify and assess existing problems related to the conservation and management of such fish stocks;

(b) Consider means of improving fisheries cooperation among States;

(c) Formulate appropriate recommendations;

3. Reaffirms that the work and results of the conference should be fully consistent with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 18/ in particular the rights and obligations of coastal States and States fishing on the high seas, and that States should give full effect to the high seas fisheries provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea with regard to fisheries populations whose ranges lie both within and beyond exclusive economic zones (straddling fish stocks) and highly migratory fish stocks;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to invite to the conference those listed in paragraph 9 of its resolution 46/168 of 19 December 1991 and in its decisions 46/469 and 46/470 of 13 April 1992, and also to invite regional and subregional fisheries organizations to attend as observers;

5. Decides that in 1993 the conference shall hold an organizational session of up to five days at United Nations Headquarters for the purposes of electing a chairman and other members of its bureau, consisting of three vice-chairmen and a rapporteur, giving due regard to equitable geographical representation; and organizing its work;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to make appropriate secretariat arrangements;

7. Decides that in 1993 the conference shall hold a session of three weeks' duration in July at United Nations Headquarters to deal with substantive matters;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare draft rules of procedure for the consideration of the conference at its organizational session;

9. Decides to establish a voluntary fund for the purpose of assisting developing States, especially those most concerned by the subject-matter of the conference, in particular the least developed among them, to participate

fully and effectively in the conference, and invites Governments and regional economic integration organizations to contribute to the fund;

10. Also decides that the funds necessary for the preparatory process and the conference itself should, subject to the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987, be made available within the programme budget without adversely affecting other ongoing activities and without prejudice to the provision of extrabudgetary resources;

11. Invites relevant specialized agencies, particularly the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as regional and subregional fisheries organizations, to contribute with relevant scientific and technical studies and reports and to organize regional and subregional technical meetings in order to contribute to the work of the conference;

12. Invites relevant non-governmental organizations from developed and developing countries to contribute within the areas of their competence and expertise to the conference on the basis of procedures for their accreditation used in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as recommended in paragraph 38.44 of Agenda 21; 19/

13. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session a report on the work of the conference;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community, relevant intergovernmental organizations, agencies, programmes and bodies within the United Nations system, regional and subregional fisheries bodies, and relevant non-governmental organizations;

15. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session a sub-item entitled "Sustainable use and conservation of the marine living resources of the high seas: United Nations conference on straddling and highly migratory fish stocks" under the agenda item entitled "Implementation of the decisions and resolutions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development".

19/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janiero, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), vol. III.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

Observance of World Day for Water

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant provisions of chapter 18 of Agenda 21, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 20/

Considering that the extent to which water resource development contributes to economic productivity and social well-being is not widely appreciated, although all social and economic activities rely heavily on the supply and quality of fresh water,

Considering also that, as populations and economic activities grow, many countries are rapidly reaching conditions of water scarcity or facing limits to economic development,

Considering further that the promotion of water conservation and sustainable management requires public awareness at local, national, regional and international levels,

1. Decides to declare 22 March of each year as World Day for Water to be observed starting in 1993, in conformity with the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development contained in chapter 18 of Agenda 21; 20/

2. Invites States to devote the Day, as appropriate in the national context, to concrete activities such as the promotion of public awareness through the publication and diffusion of documentaries, the organization of conferences, round tables, seminars and expositions related to the conservation and the development of water resources and the implementation of the recommendations of Agenda 21;

3. Invites the Secretary-General to make recommendations on ways and means by which the United Nations Secretariat could, within existing resources and without prejudice to ongoing activities, assist countries in organizing their national activities for the observance of World Day for Water;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements in order to ensure the success of the observance of World Day for Water by the United Nations;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General to focus observance by the United Nations of World Day for Water on a particular theme relating to the conservation of water resources;

20/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), vol. II.

6. Recommends that the Commission on Sustainable Development, in the execution of its mandate, attach priority to the implementation of chapter 18 of Agenda 21.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

Capacity-building for Agenda 21

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development of Agenda 21, in particular chapter 37, which contains a set of important recommendations on capacity-building, 21/

Noting with interest the launching by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme of the "Capacity 21" initiative,

1. Invites the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, taking into account national policies, priorities and plans of recipient countries, to give due consideration to the adoption of concrete programmes and measures to implement Agenda 21 recommendations on capacity-building through, inter alia, the "Capacity 21" initiative, with a view to promoting early action in support of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in the area of capacity-building;

2. Invites all relevant United Nations agencies within their mandates to promote early action to implement chapter 37 of Agenda 21;

3. Requests the Commission on Sustainable Development, in execution of its mandate, to give urgent consideration to the implementation of the provisions of Agenda 21 on capacity-building.

21/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), vol. III.

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Agenda item 80

PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MANKIND

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Walter BALZAN (Malta)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 18 September 1992, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 27th, 30th, 43rd and 51st meetings, on 4, 6 and 19 November and 16 December 1992. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/47/SR.27, 30, 43 and 51___). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 9th meetings, from 5 to 8 October (see A/C.2/47/SR.3-9).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change: implementation of resolution 46/169 and possible requirements for future work (A/47/466);

(b) Letter dated 30 January 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Colombo Declaration issued at the Sixth Meeting of the Heads of State or Government of the member countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, held at Colombo on 21 December 1991 (A/47/82-S/23512);

(c) Letter dated 6 March 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Communiqué of the Third Inter-sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, held at Kingston on 19 February 1992 (A/47/120);

(d) Letter dated 22 May 1992 from the representatives of Indonesia and Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the press communiqué issued at the conclusion of the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Bali, Indonesia, from 14 to 16 May 1992 (A/47/225-S/23998);

(e) Letter dated 2 July 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the position paper on the new world order prepared by the Summit Level Group for South-South Consultation and Cooperation (A/47/312-S/24238);

(f) Letter dated 28 July 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Singapore to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Joint Communiqué of the Twenty-fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Association of South-East Asian Nations, issued at Manila on 22 July 1992 (A/47/351-S/24357);

(g) Letter dated 17 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Final Communiqué of the Twenty-third South Pacific Forum, held at Honiara on 8 and 9 July 1992 (A/47/391);

(h) Note verbale dated 11 September 1992 from the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Final Statement adopted by the InterAction Council at its tenth session, held at Querétaro, Mexico, from 28 to 31 May 1992 (A/47/437);

(i) Letter dated 25 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/564).

4. At the 27th meeting, on 4 November, an introductory statement was made by the Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change (see A/C.2/47/SR.27).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/47/L.38/Rev.1 AND L.58

5. At the 43rd meeting, on 19 November, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind" (A/C.2/47/L.38/Rev.1), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988 and 44/207 of 22 December 1989, in which it recognized climate change as a common concern of mankind,

"Recalling also its resolutions 45/212 of 21 December 1990, by which it established an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to prepare an effective framework convention on climate change, and any related legal instruments as might be agreed upon, for signature during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and 46/169 of 19 December 1991, by which it provided for the continuation of work on climate change until the end of 1992,

"Taking note with appreciation of the reports of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change on its work thus far in 1992 1/ and the report prepared by the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change, on behalf of the Committee, for submission to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 2/

"Noting resolution 15 (EC-XLIV), adopted by the Executive Council of the World Meteorological Organization at its forty-fourth session,

"Noting that, in accordance with paragraph 4 of its resolution 46/169 and pursuant to resolution INC/1992/1 adopted by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on 9 May 1992, arrangements are being made for the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to be held as soon as practicable, preferably before the end of 1992,

"Noting also that the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee will be held at Geneva from 7 to 10 December 1992,

"Noting further that article 21 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change provides for the secretariat established by the General Assembly in resolution 45/212 to be the interim secretariat of the Convention until the completion of the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

"Noting with appreciation the support provided for the operation of the secretariat during 1992 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations

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1/ A/AC.237/18 (Part I) and A/AC.237/18 (Part II) and Add.1.

2/ A/CONF.151/8.

Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization, as well as by bilateral contributors,

"Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, 3/ with particular reference to the possible requirements for intergovernmental and secretariat work on the implementation of the Convention in the period up to and including the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

"1. Welcomes the adoption, on 9 May 1992, of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change and its signing by a large number of States;

"2. Considers the Convention one of the achievements of the international community working through the United Nations and a first step in a cooperative response to the common concern for the adverse effects of climate change;

"3. Calls upon States that have not done so to sign the Convention and to ratify, accept, approve or accede to it, so that it may enter into force;

"4. Invites signatories of the Convention to communicate to the head of the interim secretariat of the Convention, as soon as feasible, information regarding measures consistent with the provisions of the Convention, pending its entry into force;

"5. Urges States to support and contribute to the activities at the national, regional and international levels related to the basic scientific and technical needs specified in the Convention, including those activities carried out under the World Climate Programme and the Global Climate Observing System;

"6. Decides that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee shall continue to function in order to prepare for the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as specified in the Convention, and, in that context, to contribute to the effective operation of the interim arrangements set out in article 21 of the Convention;

"7. Invites the Committee, in this regard, to draw up an adequate plan of preparatory work at its sixth session and to implement it expeditiously thereafter, and requests the Secretary-General to make arrangements for the Committee to hold sessions as needed, if possible avoiding scheduling conflicts with the General Assembly;

3/ A/47/466.

"8. Requests the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to promote a coherent and coordinated programme of activities by competent bodies aimed at supporting the entry into force and effective implementation of the Convention and strengthening the capacities of developing and other countries to prepare for their participation in the Convention;

"9. Calls upon the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system involved in work relating to climate change, including the interim secretariat of the Convention, to initiate and strengthen such activities, where possible in collaboration with each other, and invites them to make information on these activities and on any coordination arrangements regularly available to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, through its secretariat;

"10. Invites the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to convey information on its work to the General Assembly, as well as to the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Sustainable Development, as appropriate, in particular in the context of chapter 9 of Agenda 21;

"11. Requests the Secretary-General, to strengthen the secretariat established by the General Assembly in resolution 45/212 so that it may function as the interim secretariat of the Convention until the completion of the first session of the Conference of the Parties and, in that capacity, provide adequate substantive support to the evolving work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, and further requests him to make provisions for this purpose within the current and forthcoming programme budgets and up to the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

"12. Requests United Nations programmes and agencies, particularly the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization, to contribute staff to assist the head of the interim secretariat;

"13. Requests bilateral sources to continue to assist the interim secretariat as hitherto;

"14. Requests the head of the interim secretariat to maximize opportunities for collaborative work with other secretariat entities, including the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

"15. Requests the Secretary-General to maintain the special voluntary fund established under paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 45/212 to support the participation of developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, as well as small island developing countries, in the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee and in the first session of the Conference of the parties to the Convention;

"16. Also requests the Secretary-General to maintain the trust fund established under paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 45/212 to contribute to the costs of the interim secretariat of the Convention;

"17. Takes note with appreciation of the contributions made to these extrabudgetary funds and appeals to present and new contributors to make adequate and timely contributions to both funds;

"18. Invites the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change to submit a final report to the General Assembly on behalf of the Committee, on the completion of the Committee's work, following the conclusion of the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

"19. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

"20. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session an item entitled 'Protection of global climate for present and future generations'."

6. At the 51st meeting, on 16 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. José Lino Guerrero (Philippines), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind" (A/C.2/47/L.58), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.38/Rev.1, and which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988 and 44/207 of 22 December 1989, in which it recognized climate change as a common concern of mankind,

"Recalling also its resolutions 45/212 of 21 December 1990, by which it established an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to prepare an effective framework convention on climate change, and any related legal instruments as might be agreed upon, for signature during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and 46/169 of 19 December 1991, by which it provided for the continuation of work on climate change until the end of 1992,

"Taking note with appreciation of the reports of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change on its work thus far in 1992 4/ and the report prepared by the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a

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4/ A/AC.237/18 (Part I) and A/AC.237/18 (Part II) and Add.1.

Framework Convention on Climate Change, on behalf of the Committee, for submission to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 5/

"Noting resolution 15 (EC-XLIV), adopted by the Executive Council of the World Meteorological Organization at its forty-fourth session,

"Noting that, in accordance with paragraph 4 of its resolution 46/169 and pursuant to resolution INC/1992/1 adopted by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on 9 May 1992, arrangements are being made for the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to be held as soon as practicable, preferably before the end of 1992,

"Noting also that the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee will be held at Geneva from 7 to 10 December 1992,

"Noting further the interim arrangements contained in article 21 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including the provision that the secretariat established by the General Assembly in resolution 45/212 should be the interim secretariat of the Convention until the completion of the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

"Noting with appreciation the support provided for the operation of the secretariat during 1992 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization, as well as by bilateral contributors,

"Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, 6/ with particular reference to the possible requirements for intergovernmental and secretariat work on the implementation of the Convention in the period up to and including the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

"1. Welcomes the adoption, on 9 May 1992, of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change and its signing by a large number of States;

"2. Considers the Convention one of the achievements of the international community working through the United Nations and a first step in a cooperative response to the common concern for the change in the Earth's climate and its adverse effects;

5/ A/CONF.151/8.

6/ A/47/466.

"3. Calls upon States that have not done so to sign or accede to the Convention, as appropriate, and all Signatories that have not yet done so to ratify, accept, or approve it, so that it may enter into force;

"4. Invites signatories of the Convention to communicate to the head of the interim secretariat of the Convention, as soon as feasible, information regarding measures consistent with the provisions of the Convention, pending its entry into force;

"5. Urges States to support and contribute to the activities at the national, subregional, regional and international levels related to the basic scientific and technical needs specified in the Convention, including those activities carried out under the World Climate Programme and the Global Climate Observing System;

"6. Decides that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee shall continue to function in order to prepare for the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as specified in the Convention, and, in that context, to contribute to the effective operation of the interim arrangements set out in article 21 of the Convention;

"7. Invites the Committee, in this regard, to draw up an adequate plan of preparatory work at its sixth session and to implement it expeditiously thereafter, and requests the Secretary-General to make arrangements within the overall calendar of conferences for the Committee to hold sessions, in accordance with the needs of that plan;

"8. Requests the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to promote a coherent and coordinated programme of activities by competent bodies aimed at supporting the entry into force and effective implementation of the Convention and strengthening the capacities of developing and all other countries to prepare for their participation in the Convention;

"9. Calls upon the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system involved in work relating to climate change, including the interim secretariat of the Convention, to initiate and strengthen such activities, where possible in collaboration with each other, and invites them to make information on these activities and on any coordination arrangements regularly available to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, through its secretariat;

"10. Invites the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to convey information on its work to the General Assembly, as well as to the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Sustainable Development, as appropriate, in particular in the context of chapter 9 of Agenda 21;

"11. Requests the Secretary-General to strengthen the secretariat established by the General Assembly in resolution 45/212 so that it may function as the interim secretariat of the Convention until the completion of the first session of the Conference of the Parties and, in that capacity, provide adequate support to the evolving work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, and further requests him to make provisions for this purpose within the current and forthcoming programme budgets;

"12. Invites the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization and other United Nations bodies with relevant expertise to continue to cooperate closely with, and to contribute staff to assist, the head of the interim secretariat;

"13. Requests bilateral sources to continue to assist the interim secretariat as hitherto;

"14. Requests the head of the interim secretariat to maximize opportunities for collaborative work with other secretariat entities, including the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

"15. Requests the Secretary-General to maintain the special voluntary fund established under paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 45/212 to support the participation of developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, as well as small island developing countries, in the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee and in the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

"16. Also requests the Secretary-General to maintain the trust fund established under paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 45/212 to contribute to the costs of the interim secretariat of the Convention;

"17. Takes note with appreciation of the contributions made to these extrabudgetary funds and invites further adequate and timely contributions to both funds;

"18. Decides that the costs of the work of the Committee and the interim secretariat should be funded within the current and forthcoming programme budgets, without adversely affecting the programmed activities of the United Nations, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987, and through voluntary contributions to the trust fund, as appropriate;

"19. Welcomes the invitation by the Government of Germany to host the first session of the Conference of the Parties;

"20. Invites the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change to submit a final

report to the General Assembly on behalf of the Committee on the completion of the Committee's work, following the conclusion of the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

"21. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

"22. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled 'Protection of global climate for present and future generations'."

7. In introducing the draft resolution, the Vice-Chairman orally revised it as follows:

(a) In the fifth preambular paragraph, the words "are being" were replaced by the words "have been", and the words "to be held as soon as practicable, preferably before the end of 1992" at the end of the paragraph were deleted;

(b) In the sixth preambular paragraph, the words "will be" were replaced by the word "was";

(c) In operative paragraph 8, the words "and strengthening" were replaced by the word "including".

(d) Operative paragraph 18 was revised to read:

"Decides that, subject to the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987, the costs of the work of the Committee and the interim secretariat should be funded within the current and forthcoming programme budgets, without adversely affecting the programmed activities of the United Nations, and through voluntary contributions to the trust fund, as appropriate".

8. The Committee had before it a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.58, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.2/47/L.83).

9. The representative of Pakistan made a statement in which she further amended the draft resolution by inserting: in operative paragraph 15, after the words "participation of developing countries", the phrase "bearing in mind decision 1/2 of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, inter alia, and".

10. Following statements by the Chairman and the representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, Benin, Canada, Mauritania, Morocco, Singapore, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), the

United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela, the Committee decided to take no action on draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.58. The Chairman informed the Committee that he would submit directly to the General Assembly in plenary meeting, in the name of his delegation, a draft resolution based on draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.58, with the following further amendments:

(a) In the fifth preambular paragraph, the words "have been" would be replaced by the word "were";

(b) In operative paragraph 7, the phrase "Invites the Committee, in this regard, to draw up an adequate plan of preparatory work at its sixth session and to implement it expeditiously thereafter" would be replaced by the phrase "Invites the Committee, in this regard, to implement expeditiously the plan of preparatory work drawn up at its sixth session".

11. In view of the course of action proposed by the Chairman concerning draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.58, draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.38/Rev.1 was withdrawn by its sponsor.

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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Walter BALZAN (Malta)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 18 September 1992, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 38th, 39th, 46th and 51st meetings, on 12, 13 and 25 November and 16 December 1992. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/47/SR.38, 39, 46 and 51). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 9th meetings, from 5 to 8 October (see A/C.2/47/SR.3-9).

3. For the consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on policies and activities relating to assistance in the eradication of poverty and support to vulnerable groups, including assistance during the implementation of structural adjustment programmes (E/1992/47);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries (A/47/530);

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(c) Letter dated 30 January 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Colombo Declaration issued at the Sixth Meeting of the Heads of State or Government of the member countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), held at Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 21 December 1991 (A/47/82-S/23512);

(d) Letter dated 6 February 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting documents from the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference, held at Dakar, from 9 to 11 December 1991 (A/47/88-S/23563);

(e) Letter dated 22 May 1992 from the representatives of Indonesia and Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the press communiqué issued at the conclusion of the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at Bali, Indonesia, from 14 to 16 May 1992 (A/47/225-S/23998);

(f) Letter dated 2 July 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the position paper on the new world order prepared by the Summit Level Group for South-South Consultation and Cooperation (Group of Fifteen), at its annual meeting held in Caracas, Venezuela, from 27 to 29 November 1991 (A/47/312-S/24238);

(g) Letter dated 17 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Final Communiqué of the Twenty-third South Pacific Forum, held at Honiara, Solomon Islands, on 8 and 9 July 1992 (A/47/391);

(h) Letter dated 14 September 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting a statement issued by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its forty-fourth session, held at Jeddah on 8 and 9 September 1992 (A/47/441-S/24559);

(i) Letter dated 2 October 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member States of the Group of 77, adopted on 1 October 1992 on the occasion of their sixteenth annual meeting, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York (A/47/499);

(j) Letter dated 25 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/564);

(k) Letter dated 19 November 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General circulating the text of the resolutions adopted by the 87th Inter-Parliamentary Conference, held at Yaoundé, Republic of Cameroon, from 3 to 11 April 1992 (A/47/706);

(1) Note verbale dated 11 September 1992 from the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Final Statement adopted by the InterAction Council at its tenth session, held at Querétaro, Mexico, from 28 to 31 May 1992 (A/47/437).

4. At the 38th meeting, on 12 November, an introductory statement was made by the representative of the Department of Economic and Social Development (see A/C.2/47/SR.38).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/47/L.52 and L.87

5. At the 46th meeting, on 25 November, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/47/L.52) entitled "Observance of an international day for the eradication of poverty", which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolutions 43/195 of 20 December 1988, 44/212 of 22 December 1989, 45/213 of 21 December 1990 and 46/121 and 46/141 of 17 December 1991,

"Recalling its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990, in which it proclaimed the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, one of the main characteristics of which is the search for a significant reduction in extreme poverty and a shared responsibility of all countries,

"Recalling also the relevant provisions of chapter 3 of Agenda 21, on combating poverty, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at Rio de Janeiro in June 1992, 1/

"Noting that the eradication of poverty in all countries, in particular in developing countries, has become one of the priorities of development objectives for the 1990s,

"Noting also that efforts at the national and international levels need to be enhanced to ensure the eradication of poverty,

"1. Decides to declare 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, to be observed beginning in 1993;

1/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26 (vol. I)), annex II.

"2. Decides also to devote this day to activities of education, sensibilization and mobilization of the international community to the problems of eradicating poverty through the publication and dissemination of documentaries and information concerning the eradication of poverty in all countries, in particular in developing countries;

"3. Invites all States to devote that day to presenting and promoting national activities on the eradication of poverty through the organization of conferences, round tables, seminars, workshops and exhibits, and the publication and dissemination of documentaries and information with a view to enhancing public awareness of that problem;

"4. Also invites the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to assist Member States, at their request, to organize national activities for the observance of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to take the measures necessary to ensure the success of the observance by the United Nations of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty;

"6. Also requests the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

6. At the 51st meeting, on 16 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. José Lino Guerrero (Philippines), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/47/L.87), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.52.

7. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of France (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

8. At its 51st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.87 without a vote (see para. 17, draft resolution I).

9. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.87, draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.52 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

10. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Benin and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the European Community and its member States) (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/47/L.53 and L.88

11. At the 46th meeting, on 25 November, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/47/L.53) entitled

"International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries", which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990, the Paris Declaration and Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, 2/ the United Nations new agenda for the development of Africa in the 1990s 3/ and the Cartagena Commitment adopted in February 1992 at the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 4/

"Also reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in principle 5, 5/ Agenda 21 in its chapter 3, 6/ the statement of principles on all types of forests in its principle 7 (a) and all other decisions and recommendations adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development related to the eradication of poverty, 7/

"Further reaffirming its resolutions 43/195 of 20 December 1988, 44/212 of 22 December 1989, 45/213 of 21 December 1990 and 46/141 of 17 December 1991,

"Noting that the eradication of poverty in developing countries has become a top-priority development objective of the 1990s,

"Stressing that effective national policies supported by a favourable international economic environment can promote growth and development in developing countries, thus increasing their capacity to undertake social and economic programmes to eradicate poverty,

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2/ See Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

3/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

4/ TD/364, part one, sect. A.

5/ A/CONF.151/26 (vol. I), annex I.

6/ Ibid., annex II.

7/ See A/CONF.151/26 (vols. I, II and Corr.1 and III).

"Noting with concern the negative effects of the debt burden and its impact on the poorer sections of society in developing countries,

"Recognizing that poverty is a complex and multidimensional problem with origins in both the national and international domains and that its eradication constitutes an indispensable requirement for sustainable development,

"Noting that the efforts made at the national and international levels need to be enhanced to ensure the eradication of poverty,

"Stressing that the eradication of poverty, in particular in developing countries, requires the realization of economic growth that is both sustained and sustainable as well as a supportive international economic environment,

"1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries; 8/

"2. Stresses the importance of domestic policies, including effective budgetary policies, to mobilize and allocate domestic resources for the eradication of poverty through, inter alia, the creation of employment and income-generating programmes, the implementation of food security, health, education, housing and population programmes and the strengthening of national capacity-building execution programmes;

"3. Encourages all countries to undertake national strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty, in particular devoted to the poorest strata of society and involving a more active participation of the targeted communities in the initiative, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of specific projects;

"4. Reaffirms that a supportive international economic environment which takes into account the review of resource flows and structural adjustment programmes, integrating social and environmental dimensions, is crucial to the success of efforts of developing countries to deal with the eradication of poverty;

"5. Urges the developed countries to adopt concrete measures for increasing financial support on a grant and concessional basis to developing countries, including measures to achieve the agreed target by developed countries, if they have not done so, of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance and internationally

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8/ See A/47/530.

agreed targets for the least developed countries, as well as new and additional financial resources for the eradication of poverty and sustainable development;

"6. Also urges all donors to contribute generously to the tenth replenishment of the International Development Association equal in real terms at least to its ninth replenishment and to the fourth replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, with a view to ensuring that these institutions continue in their fight against rural poverty;

"7. Further urges the international community to undertake technical cooperation programmes with a view to strengthening income and job creation capacities, to improve food security, health, education and housing for the population and to respond to other essential needs of the population in developing countries, in particular among the poor, and reaffirms in this context the importance of examining effective modalities for the transfer of technology, in particular the one addressed to satisfy the basic needs of the population on concessional and preferential terms, notably for developing countries, with a view to ensuring this transfer as soon as possible;

"8. Encourages the international community including the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to support the development programmes of developing countries, including human resources development programmes, in order to strengthen endogenous technical capacity and generate opportunities for production and employment;

"9. Welcomes the decision of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session to set up a Standing Committee on Poverty Alleviation and to request the Trade and Development Board to attach the highest priority to its work in the framework of its agreed terms of reference;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the progress made in coordinating actions, in cooperation with governmental and non-governmental organizations and other multilateral bodies, to formulate improved and enhanced action-oriented technical cooperation programmes for the eradication of poverty in developing countries, within the framework of the United Nations system, in accordance with the policies, priorities and strategies of those countries;

"11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session an item entitled 'International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries'."

12. At the 51st meeting, on 16 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. José Lino Guerrero (Philippines), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/47/L.88), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.53, and orally revised it as follows:

(a) Operative paragraph 5 was revised to read as follows:

"Reiterates its request to the international community to adopt specific and effective measures designed to increase financial flows to developing countries, and urges the developed countries which have reaffirmed their commitments to reach the accepted United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance, to the extent that they have not yet achieved that target, agree to augment their aid programmes in order to reach that target as soon as possible; some countries having agreed to reach the target by the year 2000; other developed countries, in line with their support for reform efforts in developing countries, agree to make their best efforts to increase their level of official development assistance";

(b) In operative paragraph 7, in the first line before the word "undertake" the words "to continue to", should be inserted and, in the eighth line after the words "property rights", the word "and" should be replaced with the words "as well as";

(c) In operative paragraph 10, after the word "poverty" in the fifth line, the words "in all countries, particularly" should be inserted.

13. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Benin (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

14. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.88, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 17, draft resolution II).

15. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.88, draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.53 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

16. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

17. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Observance of an international day for the eradication of poverty

The General Assembly,

Noting that the eradication of poverty and destitution in all countries, in particular in developing countries, has become one of the priorities of development for the 1990s, and considering that the promotion of the eradication of poverty and destitution requires public awareness,

Welcoming the fact that certain non-governmental organizations, on the initiative of one non-governmental organization, have in many States in recent years observed 17 October as World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty,

1. Decides to declare 17 October as International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, to be observed beginning in 1993;

2. Notes that activities undertaken with respect to the Day will take into account those undertaken each 17 October by certain non-governmental organizations;

3. Invites all States to devote the Day to presenting and promoting, as appropriate in the national context, concrete activities on the eradication of poverty and destitution;

4. Also invites the Secretary-General to make recommendations on ways and means by which the United Nations Secretariat could, within existing resources and without prejudice to ongoing activities, assist States in organizing their national activities for the observance of International Day for the Eradication of Poverty;

5. Further invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to assist States, at their request, in organizing national activities for the observance of International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, paying due attention to the specific problems of the destitute;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take the measures necessary, within existing resources, to ensure the success of the observance by the United Nations of International Day for the Eradication of Poverty;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990, the Paris Declaration and Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, 9/ the United Nations new agenda for the development of Africa in the 1990s 10/ and the Cartagena Commitment adopted in February 1992 at the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 11/

Also reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in principle 5, 12/ Agenda 21 in its chapter 3, 13/ the statement of principles on all types of forests in its principle 7 (a) and all other decisions and recommendations adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development related to the eradication of poverty, 14/

Further reaffirming its resolutions 43/195 of 20 December 1988, 44/212 of 22 December 1989, 45/213 of 21 December 1990 and 46/141 of 17 December 1991,

Noting that the eradication of poverty in all countries, in particular in developing countries, has become one of the priority development objectives for the 1990s,

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9/ See Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

10/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

11/ TD/364, part one, sect. A.

12/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26 (vol. I)), annex I.

13/ Ibid., annex II.

14/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26 (vols. I, II and Corr.1, and III)).

Stressing that effective national policies supported by a favourable international economic environment can promote sustained and sustainable development in all countries, in particular in developing countries, thus increasing their capacity to undertake social and economic programmes to eradicate poverty,

Noting with concern the negative effects of large debt burdens and their impact on poorer sections of society in many developing countries,

Recognizing that poverty is a complex and multidimensional problem with origins in both the national and international domains and that its eradication constitutes an important factor to ensure sustainable development,

Noting that the efforts made at the national and international levels need to be enhanced to ensure the eradication of poverty,

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries; 15/

2. Stresses the importance of domestic policies, including effective budgetary policies, to mobilize and allocate domestic resources for the eradication of poverty through, inter alia, the creation of employment and income-generating programmes, with particular reference to households headed by women, the implementation of food security, health, education, housing and population programmes and the strengthening of national capacity-building execution programmes;

3. Encourages all countries to undertake national strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty, in particular devoted to the poorest strata of society and involving a more active participation of the targeted communities in the initiative, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of specific projects;

4. Reaffirms that a supportive international economic environment which takes into account the review of resource flows and structural adjustment programmes, integrating social and environmental dimensions, is crucial to the success of efforts of developing countries to deal with the eradication of poverty;

5. Reiterates its request to the international community to adopt specific and effective measures designed to increase financial flows to developing countries, and urges the developed countries which have reaffirmed their commitments to reach the accepted United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance, to the extent that they have not yet achieved that target, agree to augment their aid

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15/ See A/47/530.

programmes in order to reach that target as soon as possible some countries having agreed to reach the target by the year 2000; other developed countries, in line with their support for reform efforts in developing countries, agree to make their best efforts to increase their level of official development assistance;

6. Also urges all donors to contribute generously to the tenth replenishment of the International Development Association, to the fourth replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and other international financial institutions with a view to ensuring that those institutions continue in their fight against poverty, especially in rural areas;

7. Further urges the international community to continue to undertake technical cooperation programmes with a view to strengthening income and job creation capacities, improving food security, health, education and housing, and meeting other basic needs of the populations of developing countries, in particular the poorest groups among them, and in that context, reaffirms that, with respect to the transfer of technology on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as and the special needs of developing countries for the implementation of Agenda 21, effective modalities should be examined with a view to implementing and enhancing that transfer as soon as possible;

8. Encourages the international community, including the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to support the development programmes in all countries, in particular developing countries, including human resources development programmes, in order to strengthen endogenous technical capacity and generate opportunities for production and employment;

9. Welcomes the decision of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session to set up a Standing Committee on Poverty Alleviation and to request the Trade and Development Board to attach high priority to its work in the framework of its agreed terms of reference;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the progress made in coordinating actions, in cooperation with governmental and non-governmental organizations and other multilateral bodies, to formulate improved and enhanced action-oriented technical cooperation programmes for the eradication of poverty in all countries, particularly in developing countries, within the framework of the United Nations system, in accordance with the policies, priorities and strategies of those countries;

11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session an item entitled "International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries".

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EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Walter BALZAN (Malta)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 18 September 1992, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "External debt crisis and development" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 19th, 20th, 28th and 51st meetings, on 23 October, 5 November and 16 December 1992. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/47/SR.19, 20, 28 and 51). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 9th meetings, from 5 to 8 October 1992 (see A/C.2/47/SR.3-9).

3. For the consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on recent experience under the international debt strategy (A/47/396);

(b) Letter dated 30 January 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the Colombo Declaration issued at the Sixth Meeting of the Heads of State or Government of the member countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, held at Colombo on 21 December 1991 (A/47/82-S/23512);

(c) Letter dated 3 February 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/83);

(d) Letter dated 22 May 1992 from the representatives of Indonesia and Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the press communiqué issued at the conclusion of the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Bali, Indonesia, from 14 to 16 May 1992 (A/47/225-S/23998);

(e) Letter dated 2 July 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Senegal addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the position paper on the new world order prepared by the Summit Level Group for South-South Consultation and Cooperation (Group of Fifteen) at its meeting held at Caracas from 27 to 29 November 1991 (A/47/312-S/24238);

(f) Letter dated 21 July 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Communiqué of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, held at Port-of-Spain from 29 June to 2 July 1992 (A/47/344);

(g) Letter dated 28 July 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Singapore to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Joint Communiqué of the Twenty-Fifth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, issued at Manila on 22 July 1992 (A/47/351-S/24357);

(h) Letter dated 11 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the final documents of the Munich Economic Summit, held from 6 to 8 July 1992 (A/47/375-S/24429);

(i) Letter dated 2 October 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member States of the Group of 77, adopted on 1 October 1992 on the occasion of their sixteenth annual meeting, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York (A/47/499);

(j) Letter dated 20 October 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the resolutions adopted by the 88th Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, held at Stockholm from 4 to 12 September 1992 (A/47/569).

4. At the 19th meeting, on 23 October 1992, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Development made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/47/SR.19).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft decision A/C.2/47/L.4

5. By its decision 46/433 of 18 December 1991, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee, decided to defer until its

forty-seventh session consideration of the draft decision entitled "Establishment of an advisory commission on debt and development" (see A/C.2/47/L.4). The draft decision read as follows:

"The General Assembly decides:

"(a) To establish, under the aegis of the Secretary-General, an advisory commission on debt and development composed of eminent persons from the academic, political and financial sectors with knowledge and experience in international finance, trade and development, to develop innovative approaches and evolve specific proposals related to all types of debt in order to solve the debt problem of developing countries in a manner consistent with their sustained growth and development. Debtor and creditor interests shall be represented in the membership of the commission, which shall take into account the need for appropriate geographical representation and regional balance. The commission shall take into consideration the various existing studies and recommendations on the subject, including the views of the Secretary-General set out in his report entitled 'Towards a durable solution of the debt problem' 1/ and those expressed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the Trade and Development Report, 1988. 2/ The commission shall be established for at least three years and shall submit annual reports to the General Assembly;

"(b) To request the Secretary-General to appoint the members of the commission and organize support staff from within the United Nations and, through secondment or other appropriate means, from relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session on the implementation of the present decision."

6. At its 50th meeting, on 11 December, the Committee decided not to take action on the draft decision contained in document A/C.2/47/L.4.

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.16 and Rev.1

7. At the 28th meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/47/L.16) entitled "Enhanced international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt crisis of developing countries", which read as follows:

1/ A/43/647 and Corr.1.

2/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.88.II.D.8.

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolutions 41/202 of 8 December 1986, 42/198 of 11 December 1987, 43/198 of 20 December 1988, 44/205 of 22 December 1989, 45/214 of 21 December 1990 and 46/148 of 18 December 1991,

"Reaffirming also the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990, the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, contained in the annex to its resolution 46/151 of 8 December 1991, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries 3/ and the provisions for a durable solution to the external debt crisis, contained in the relevant chapters of Agenda 21, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 3 to 14 June 1992, 4/

"Noting the uneven developments towards the solution of the external debt problem of developing countries,

"Noting also that only indebted developing countries have regained relative access to international financial markets but that, even for these countries borrowing entails high costs, including high interest premiums,

"Noting with concern the continuing debt and debt-service problems of the middle-income developing countries, which adversely affect their development efforts and economic growth, and reiterating the need to address the continuing debt problem of those countries through effective debt-relief measures, bearing in mind, in this context, the lack of adequate debt-relief measures, in particular for the middle-income African countries,

"Noting also with concern the continuing existence of the heavy debt and debt-service burden of low-income countries, despite current measures,

"Noting further the recent initiatives towards the solution of the debt problem of developing countries, especially the adoption by the Paris Club of the enhanced Toronto terms and the conclusion of several agreements on commercial debt and debt-service reduction,

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3/ See Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

4/ See A/CONF.151/26 (vols. I, II and Corr.1, and III).

"Noting the substantial debt relief and debt reduction agreed to by the Paris Club in favour of two middle-income countries and recognizing the need to extend similar debt reduction to low-income and other middle-income countries,

"Stressing, however, that the impact of the debt-relief measures may be temporary in the absence of a supportive international economic environment, including an open and transparent multilateral trading system,

"Recognizing the continued efforts of debtor developing countries to implement stabilization and structural adjustment programmes to raise savings and investment, reduce inflation and improve economic efficiency, taking into account the vulnerability of the poorer strata of their populations,

"Expressing its concern that, in many developing countries, the burden of debt and debt service constitutes one of the major obstacles to the revitalization of growth and development, despite the often strenuous economic reforms of those countries,

"Noting that the close association between the debt crisis and virtual economic stagnation in the majority of developing countries calls for additional measures to ensure that all developing countries can rapidly reach a durable solution to their external debt problem,

"Noting also that developing countries have continued to meet their international debt and debt-service obligations in a timely fashion, despite severe external financial constraints and at the great cost of adequate basic services to their peoples,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the external debt crisis and development; 5/

"2. Welcomes the conclusion of several arrangements on debt and debt-service reduction and the call made at the Munich Economic Summit by the seven major industrialized nations for debt-relief measures in favour of the lower-middle-income severely indebted countries; 6/

"3. Also welcomes the write-off of part of the bilateral official debt by certain donors to the least developed countries, and calls for further significant action, in particular the need for sustained and comprehensive action to deal with the external indebtedness of those countries;

5/ A/47/396.

6/ See A/47/375-S/24429.

"4. Expresses its appreciation for the recent measures announced by the Government of France to address the debt problem of some middle-income African developing countries, encourages their application and invites all creditors to take similar measures for all debtor developing countries;

"5. Notes with concern the accumulation of arrears towards the multilateral financial institutions, as well as the absence of any formal mechanism to restructure the multilateral debt of the developing countries;

"6. Stresses that the tax, regulatory and accounting practices in the industrialized countries continue to pose unnecessary obstacles to the access of debtor countries to new loans and continue to increase unduly the cost of those loans;

"7. Also stresses the need for additional debt-relief measures, including further cancellation or reduction of debt and debt service related to official and commercial debts;

"8. Further stresses the need for the broadest and most expeditious implementation of the recent initiatives in debt and debt-service reduction and the need to build upon them;

"9. Stresses the need to strengthen and broaden the debt-relief approaches to cover all types of debt and debtor countries and to include anticipatory measures to prevent the proliferation of the debt problem;

"10. Recognizes the need for international support for the efforts of debtor developing countries to continue to provide adequate social safety nets to vulnerable groups most adversely affected by the implementation of economic reform programmes in the debtor countries;

"11. Emphasizes the importance of international community support to developing countries in their efforts to achieve economic reform in order to raise savings and investment, reduce inflation and improve economic efficiency, taking into account the vulnerability of the poorer strata of their populations;

"12. Recognizes the need of debtor developing countries for a supportive international economic environment as regards, inter alia, terms of trade, commodity prices, improved market access and trade practices and, in this connection, stresses the urgent need for a balanced and successful outcome of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, which would result in the liberalization and expansion of world trade to the benefit of all countries, in particular the developing countries;

"13. Reiterates the need for a coordinated approach involving debtor developing countries, creditor developed countries, commercial banks and multilateral financial institutions, with a view to reducing the debt and debt service of developing countries far beyond the scope of the current terms, which would allow recovery, growth and development in developing countries;

"14. Emphasizes the need to provide substantial concessional and non-debt resources to developing countries, with a view to promoting the revival of their economic growth and sustained development;

"15. Calls upon creditor Governments and multilateral financial institutions to take duly into account that while debt-relief measures are needed to reduce the debt burden, fresh financial resources are also needed to increase the rate of investment and to accelerate the economic growth of developing countries;

"16. Urges the international community to consider wider application of innovative measures, such as debt-for-equity swaps, debt swaps for the protection of nature and debt-for-development swaps;

"17. Stresses the need for sustained action in addressing the debt problem of low-income countries and, in this regard, calls for early, expeditious and wide implementation of the enhanced Toronto terms, as well as for their urgent improvement, in order to address fully the continuing debt problem of those countries;

"18. Calls upon creditors to renew and expand initiatives and efforts in order to tackle the problems of the increasing commercial debt burden of low- and middle-income countries;

"19. Urges countries that have not yet responded to Trade and Development Board resolution 165 (S-IX) of 11 March 1978 7/ by cancelling or providing equivalent relief for the official development assistance debt of the least developed countries, to do so on a priority basis;

"20. Urges creditor countries, private banks and multilateral financial institutions to consider the extension of new financial support to developing countries that have substantial debt burdens and that continue to service their debt and meet their international obligations;

"21. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

7/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/33/15), vol. I and corrigendum, annex I.

8. At the 51st meeting, on 16 December 1992, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. José Lino Guerrero (Philippines), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and drew the Committee's attention to a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/47/L.16/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.16, and orally revised it as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 6, insert the word "the" in the fourth line after the word "to";

(b) In operative paragraph 10, in the fourth line, for "burden" read "burdens".

9. Before the adoption of the revised draft resolution, the representative of France made corrections to the French text (see A/C.2/47/SR.51).

10. At its 51st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.16/Rev.1, as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 109 to 1 (see para. 12). The voting was as follows: 8/

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

8/ The representative of Chile, Ecuador, Mexico and Nicaragua indicated that, had they been present at the time of the voting, they would have voted in favour.

11. At the same meeting, in the light of the adoption of the draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.16/Rev.1, draft resolution A/C.2/47/L.16 was withdrawn by its sponsor.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

12. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International debt crisis and development: enhanced international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/202 of 8 December 1986, 42/198 of 11 December 1987, 43/198 of 20 December 1988, 44/205 of 22 December 1989, 45/214 of 21 December 1990 and 46/148 of 18 December 1991,

Reaffirming the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, 9/ the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, contained in the annex to its resolution 46/151 of 8 December 1991, the Cartagena Commitment: A New Partnership for Development, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, and the provisions on a durable solution to the external debt crisis, contained in the relevant chapters of Agenda 21, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 3 to 14 June 1992, 10/

Noting that owing to uneven developments, further progress is needed towards the solution of the external debt problems of a large number of developing countries, in the context of the evolving international debt strategy,

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9/ See Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

10/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26, vols. I, II and Corr.1, and III).

Noting also that a few indebted developing countries have regained relative access to international financial markets under the difficulties described in the report of the Secretary-General, 11/

Noting with concern the continuing debt and debt-service problems of lower-middle-income developing countries, which adversely affect their development efforts and economic growth, and reiterating the need to address the continuing debt problems of those countries through effective debt-relief measures, bearing in mind, in this context, the special situation of lower-middle-income and certain middle-income African countries,

Noting also with concern the continuing existence of the heavy debt and debt-service burden of low-income countries,

Noting with appreciation the recent initiatives towards the solution of the debt problems of some developing countries, inter alia, the adoption by the Paris Club of the "enhanced terms" 12/ and the conclusion of several agreements on commercial debt and debt-service reduction,

Noting the substantial debt relief and debt reduction agreed to by the Paris Club in favour of two middle-income countries,

Stressing the importance of alleviating the debt and debt-service burdens of low- and middle-income developing countries with public debt problems,

Stressing also, in this context, the necessity of a supportive international economic environment, including an open and transparent multilateral trading system,

Emphasizing the importance for debtor developing countries to continue to pursue and intensify their efforts in their economic reforms, stabilization and structural adjustment programmes, to raise savings and investment, reduce inflation and improve economic efficiency, taking into account their individual characteristics and the vulnerability of the poorer strata of their populations,

Expressing its concern that, in many developing countries, the burden of debt and debt service constitutes one of the major obstacles to the revitalization of growth and development, despite the often strenuous economic reforms of those countries,

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11/ A/47/396.

12/ The "enhanced terms" are the terms offered by the Paris Club for the poorest, most indebted developing countries.

Noting that those developing countries which have continued, at great cost, to meet their international debt and debt-service obligations in a timely fashion have done so despite severe external and domestic financial constraints,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the external debt crisis and development; 11/

2. Welcomes the conclusion of several agreements on commercial bank debt and debt-service reduction under the evolving international debt strategy and takes note of relevant declarations recognizing the debt problems of some highly indebted lower-middle-income countries, taking into account their special and specific situations; 13/

3. Also welcomes the write-off of a significant part of the bilateral official debt by certain donors to the least developed countries, and urges the countries that have not done so to cancel or provide equivalent relief for the official development assistance debt of the least developed countries;

4. Expresses its appreciation for the initiatives taken by developed countries, including recent initiatives to address the debt problems of some middle-income African countries, encourages their application and invites all creditor countries to consider taking relevant measures for middle-income debtor developing countries;

5. Stresses the need for the broadest and the most expeditious implementation of the recent initiatives and for continuing to build upon them, inter alia, in order to prevent the proliferation of debt problems;

6. Also stresses the need for the implementation of additional debt-relief measures, including further cancellation or reduction of debt and debt service related to official debt, and for more urgent action with regard to the remaining commercial debt owed by developing countries;

7. Recognizes the urgent need to continue to provide a social safety net to vulnerable groups most adversely affected by the implementation of economic reform programmes in the debtor countries, in particular low-income groups, in order to ensure social and political stability;

8. Emphasizes the importance for developing countries to continue their efforts to promote a favourable environment for attracting foreign investment, thereby promoting economic growth and sustainable development;

9. Recognizes the need of debtor developing countries for a supportive international economic environment as regards, inter alia, terms of trade, commodity prices, improved market access and trade practices, and, in this

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13/ See A/47/375-S/24429.

connection, stresses the urgent need for a balanced and successful outcome of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, which would result in the liberalization and expansion of world trade to the benefit of all countries, in particular the developing countries;

10. Reiterates the need for the implementation of initiatives involving developing debtor countries, developed creditor countries, commercial banks and multilateral financial institutions, with a view to easing the debt and debt-service burdens of severely indebted developing countries, which would contribute to recovery, growth and development in developing countries;

11. Stresses the need, in addition to debt-relief measures that include debt and debt-service reduction, for new financial flows to debtor developing countries, and urges the creditor countries and the multilateral financial institutions to continue to extend concessional financial assistance, as appropriate, in order to support the implementation by the developing countries of their economic reforms, stabilization and structural adjustment programmes so as to enable them to extricate themselves from the debt overhang and to assist them in achieving economic growth and development;

12. Urges the international community to consider wider application of innovative measures, such as debt-for-equity swaps, debt-for-nature swaps and debt-for-development swaps;

13. Stresses the need for sustained action in addressing the debt problems of low-income countries and, in this regard, calls for early, expeditious and wide implementation of the enhanced terms currently offered to low-income countries by the Paris Club, as well as, where necessary, their extension;

14. Calls upon private creditors to renew and expand initiatives and efforts in order to tackle the commercial debt problems of low- and middle-income developing countries;

15. Urges creditor countries, private banks and, within their prerogatives, multilateral financial institutions to consider the extension of appropriate new financial support to developing countries, in particular the low-income countries with substantial debt burdens that continue, at great cost, to service the debt and meet their international obligations;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.